

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A shared NIC device that includes an input interface and output interface connected to an InfiniBand Architecture (IBA) subnet, a network input interface, a network output interface, and a controller. The IBA subnet has two or more devices attached. The network input interface processes information received from a network. The network output interface processes information to be sent to the network. When a packet is received at the input interface from one of the two devices where a destination address of the packet is that of a second of the devices, the controller sends the packet across the output interface to the second device without sending the packet to the network. The network may be any type network such as a Fibre Channel network, SCSI network, ATM network, SONET, or Ethernet. The two or more devices may be InfiniBand host devices and/or InfiniBand target devices.